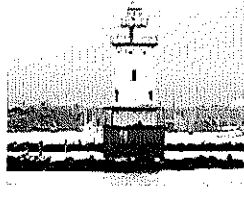


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**CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

VIA EMAIL TRANSMISSION AND REGULAR MAIL

May 22, 2013

Mr. Colin Clark
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Inland Water Resources Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

**Subject: Application No. FM-201200017
(Department of Economic and Community Development)**

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Stamford Harbor Management Commission (HMC) has received the Notice of Tentative Determination issued by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to approve the above-referenced application. That application, submitted by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, requests an exemption pursuant to Section 25-68d(b) (Flood Management) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The DEEP has also given notice that it intends to hold a public hearing on the application on June 19, 2013.

Described in the Notice, the proposed activities include: "construction of new headquarters building, parking garage, driveways, public accessways, utilities, grading, landscaping, and appurtenant site improvements." In addition, the Notice declares that the "activities include placement of approximately 100,600 cy of fill and substantial structures within the Coastal Special Flood Hazard Area of Long Island Sound."

The site of the proposed activities adjoins the west branch of Stamford Harbor. It is the responsibility of the HMC to review proposals affecting Stamford Harbor and to determine the consistency of those proposals with the Stamford Harbor Management Plan (the Plan). Pursuant to Section 22a-113n of the Connecticut General Statutes, a recommendation of the HMC pursuant to the Plan shall be binding on any official of the State of Connecticut when making a regulatory decision affecting Stamford Harbor, unless such official shows cause why a different action should be taken.

The HMC considered this matter during its meeting on May 21, 2013 and approved a motion to transmit the following initial comments regarding the proposal to the DEEP.

Initial Comments:

1. The HMC is concerned about the potential adverse impacts of the proposal on: a) flood conditions on the property of the Ponus Yacht Club, an existing and viable water-dependent use of the Stamford waterfront; and b) on-land access to the Ponus Yacht Club.

Mr. Colin Clark
May 22, 2013

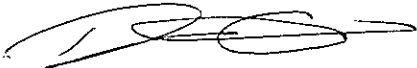
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2. The HMC is concerned about the potential adverse impacts of the proposal on future water-dependent development opportunities on the site of the proposed activities.

3. The HMC reserves its right to formally review the application to determine its consistency with the Plan, and to transmit the HMC's findings and recommendations concerning the application to the DEEP during the public hearing process.

You may contact me at (315) 651-0070 or drortelli@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Damian Ortelli

Secretary, Stamford Harbor Management Commission

Cc:

Ms. Kristen Bellantuono, DEEP Office of Long Island Sound Programs

Mr. Jack Condlin, HMC Application Review Committee

Mr. Frank Fedeli, Stamford Office of Operations

Mr. Michael J. Lettieri, Department of Economic and Community Development

Mr. Brian Thompson, DEEP Office of Long Island Sound Programs